LAAC: Weekly Leadership Update
DATE

Agenda

1. **North Star: Long-Term Facilities Use Agreements**
    - None
2. **North Star: Renewal Criteria & Performance Framework**
    - Is there anyone else on LAAC beyond Marcia who you see as a potential leader on renewal criteria/performance framework?
3. **North Star: Authorizing Policy & Oversight**
    - We plan to push back against CSD's 9/24 notice of Q1 document submissions (due: 10/5.) as part of oversight advocacy efforts. Proposed new due date: two weeks after last CSD Oversight Q&A session on 10/4 (i.e., 10/18). Do you have any concerns?
4. **Ad-Hoc North Star: BD5 Representation**
    - No questions this week.
5. **Legislative Advocacy**
    - None
6. **Strike Preparedness**
    - What else do you think schools need from us support-wise given the real possibility of strike this week?
7. **Additional Updates: for this week- LAAC Meeting, any follow-up from last week**
    - October Regional Meeting Logistics and Agenda Planning (October 11, 12:30-4pm)
        - Will any other space besides the MPR be available?
        - TBD: Agenda format following input from team and space logistics.

Pre-Reading

North Star: Long-Term Facilities Use Agreements

Create a formal and sustainable system for long-term facilities use agreements between LAUSD and charter schools beginning in the 2019-20 school year, where long-term is defined to be petition co-terminus or longer, by establishing a clear change in facilities policy.

- **Current Strategy:**
    - Our strategy is to maximize opportunities aligned with LAUSD leadership (e.g., Superintendent Beutner and Board Vice President Melvoin) and their facilities-related priorities. In doing so, we will strategically challenge the District's assertion that long-term facilities use agreements are legally untenable under Prop 39 while expeditiously pursuing other viable paths toward implementing multi-year agreements.
- **What Happened Last Week:**
    - On Friday, LA RA had a call with Board Member Nick Melvoin's office following its receipt of a district legal memo outlining potential paths forward on long-term facilities use agreements. We aligned on strategies to implement this shared priority between BD4 and the charter community and will have a sit-down meeting with charter leaders and Nick Melvoin on October 25.
- **What's Happening Next Week:**
    - We will gather data refuting the District's erroneous assertions re: multi-year agreements under Prop 39 and continue to explore finding that long-term agreements cannot exist within Prop 39 framework.

    - Based on outcome of conversation with BD4, we will continue to analyze proposed paths for charter long-term facilities use agreements and determine most viable and likely to succeed path(s).
- **Working Group Updates:**
    - No formal working group yet, but 2-3 LAAC members expressed interest in participating in the group during September's LAAC meeting.

North Star: Renewal Criteria & Performance Framework

In the absence of updated statewide criteria, secure LAUSD charter renewal criteria that prioritizes student academic outcomes and – only when necessary – considers multiple measures but does not substitute academic achievement with non-academic outcome measures of limited value.
Secure a performance framework that lays the foundation for system-wide school improvement through a similar focus on student academic achievement. At a minimum, charter renewal criteria will remain protected as LAUSD adopts a performance framework for all public schools.

- **Current Strategy:**
    - Secure a rigorous performance framework for all schools that we can use to establish clear, consistent, and academically-focused renewal criteria for all schools while continuing to build the case against the inconsistent, subjective, and opaque process currently used by CSD.
- **What Happened Last Week:**
    - More than 60 organizations signed on to the collective letter (meeting the LAAC goals).
    - Board Member Melvoin used the argument in our letter to make the case for updating renewal criteria in alignment with a performance framework.
    - The District hosted another Performance Framework Learning Group meeting, focused on presentations of the Open Data portal and Unified Enrollment system but without direct relevance to the performance framework.
    - We connected with Board Member Gonez's office, and they committed to holding staff accountable for productive and transparent performance framework working groups so that we could influence.
- **What's Happening Next Week:**
    - We'll counsel next month's renewing schools on pushing back on benchmarks.
    - We'll follow up with Board Member Gonez on progress they've made with laying out the performance framework milestones so that we can make better use of the District's own working group meetings. This will help us more effectively and efficiently engage a broader group of charter leaders in advocacy with Board members.
- **Working Group Updates:**
    - We'll begin soliciting feedback from the former participants of the Applicable Policies Working Group and Authorization/Oversight working group as we

North Star: Authorizing Policy & Oversight

Fundamentally improve the authorization and oversight experience for LA charter schools and the relationship between authorizer and charter schools in LA by securing structural reforms at LAUSD. In addition, continue to monitor OIG activity as it relates to LAUSD authorized charter schools.

- **Current Strategy:**

    - Our strategy is to build the case that CSD fails to efficiently and competently implement existing authorization and oversight policy and support a call for systemic structural and personnel within CSD.
- **What Happened Last Week:**
    - The District sent notices this week to LAUSD-authorized charters that certain information and documents as part of the annual oversight process are due October 5. L.A. charters are concerned with the short notice, especially given the volume of information requested and the fact that district-led oversight Q&A sessions are happening only October 1-3. LA RA will communicate the charter community's concerns and seek a reasonable resolution.
- **What's Happening Next Week:**
    - LA RA will communicate the charter community's concerns and seek a reasonable resolution and will participate in the District's Q&A session on October 1.
- **Working Group Updates:**
    - No formal working group yet, but 1-2 LAAC members expressed interest in participating in the group during September's LAAC meeting.

Ad-Hoc North Star: BD5 Representation

Maintain a kids-first local authorizing environment by securing: 1) interim appointment of a representative who supports the Superintendent and aligned board members; and 2) A special election primary in March; 3) LAAC alignment with a PAC.

- **Current Strategy:**
    - LA RA is working with CCSA's Civic Affairs team to prepare for the March 5 primary election.
- **What Happened Last Week:**
    - Last week, our civic affairs team continued meetings with candidates to gauge their interest and viability in the election. We are working with cross team partners to develop details around our endorsement process and the launch of the PAC. We began exploring an option to convene charter leaders around the SPI race and BD5 race.
- **What's Happening Next Week:**
    - We are meeting with and communicating internally on candidates. We are exploring whether we can convene charter leaders around the SPI and BD5 races in a way that keeps us compliant with election law.
- **PAC Updates:**
    - We will launch PAC recruitment in the next several weeks.

Additional Updates

<u>UTLA Strike Prep</u>

- **What Happened Last Week:**
    - This week, in conversations with district staff and charter leaders, we learned that district staff is actively preparing for a strike on Wednesday, October 3. The strike will likely be across all schools, rather than a rolling strike.

- With this timeline in mind, we provided a set of guidelines to our charter school leaders covering key communications and operational recommendations.
- We followed up with members of the Superintendent's senior staff on logistical issues for co-located sites that our schools need to open and operate without interruption, and we talked over similar questions with Jose Cole-Gutierrez and Bob Perry of the Charter Schools Division. As a result of those conversations, we secured preliminary guidance on key operational issues and scheduled an emergency all-member meeting for Tuesday morning with the Superintendent.

- **What's Happening Next Week?**
  - On Tuesday at 8:30am, Austin Beutner will address the charter community at Para Los Ninos Gratts. We anticipate the session will include an opportunity for charter leaders to ask key operational questions and to learn more about the days ahead.
  - We anticipate a work stoppage on Wednesday and will be prepared to address charter leader operational and media questions.

LAUSD Hires New Inspector General

- On Tuesday, during closed session, the LAUSD Board of Education approved an employment contract for William Stern to serve as the district's Inspector General effective January 31, 2019, through June 30, 2020. Mr. Stern is currently the FBI's Chief Attaché to the Netherlands and Europol (the European Union police agency). He has worked for the FBI since 1999 investigating white-collar and financial crimes and, prior to that, was an auditor with the Internal Revenue Service. We will continue to monitor the OIG's adherence to the board-approved FY 2019 OIG Work Plan and keep you posted on any developments coming out of the OIG office.